

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

In a digital data processing apparatus, a storage section stores data representative of digital contents of audio or video. A reproduction section processes the data to reproduce the digital contents. A reading section reads out the data from the storage section and sends the read data to the reproduction section. A generating section alters the read data to generate latent deterioration in the digital contents. A control section rewrites the data stored in the storage section by the altered data, whereby repetition of reading and rewriting of the data accumulates latent deterioration to finally cause an evident deterioration of the digital contents. Optionally, a recording section records the data read out from the storage section to make a copy of the digital contents. In such a case, the control section may operate when the copy is made by the recording section for clearing the data from the storage section to erase an original of the digital contents.